LOCUTA,

A Fragment;

DEDICATED TO THERESA TIDY.

WITH ETCHINGS.

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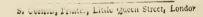
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VOYAGE TO LOCUTA:

A FRAGMENT.





FRONTISPIECE.



Mercury introducing a Youth to the Island of Locuta.

VOYAGE TO LOCUTA;

A FRAGMENT:

WITH ETCHINGS,

AND NOTES OF ILLUSTRATION.

DEDICATED TO THERESA TIDY,

Author of the "Eighteen Maxims of Neatness and Order."

BY LEMUEL GULLIVER, JUN.

Elizabelk Sizanna Graham

"What do you read, my Lord?"-

"Words, words, words."

HAMLET.

" Que je ne connois point ces gens là.

BELISE.

" Quel martyre!

"Ce sont les noms des mots, et l'on doit regarder

"En quoi c'est qu'il les faut faire ensemble accorder."

FEMMES SAVANTES.

LONDON:

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BOOKSELLER TO THE QUEEN,
NO. 190, OFFOSITE ALBANY, PICCADILLY.

1818.

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DEDICATION.

DEAR THERESA,

CONNECTED as we are by the ties of blood as well as of friendship, I cannot fail to be interested in all your concerns, and have heard with pleasure, that your late attempt to promote the cause of order and arrangement in the Eighteen Maxims which you have given to your young friends, has met with so candid a reception. It has also awakened in me a desire to put in my oar, and, under your auspices, to waft them to a place which I have lately visited, and in which the good effect of order is so manifest, as to afford an interesting subject of examination: but, as your attention has been devoted to the cause of order and regularity in the daily occupations of the younger part of the community, the example which I have to produce is confined to the arrangement of their verbal intercourse.

To proceed, then, to the scene of action: I must inform you, that, at a time when all England is flocking to the Continent, and wanderers of all descriptions are crossing each other in a thousand different directions, like a nest of ants, I too have been seized with a desire of emigrating; and nothing would content me, short of an expedition to the regions. once explored by my revered ancestor, that great navigator Lemuel Gulliver, where I might retrace the progress described by his elequent pen, and perhaps discover fresh objects of examination. Having at length, by the accidental influence of winds and currents, been drivenupon a shore which did not present itself to hisobservation, I can only regret that he is no longer in existence, since none but himself could have done justice to the interesting set of characters with which I became acquainted. Upon examining my papers, I find only the meagre and scanty Fragment which follows: but should this rude sketch of what I saw and heard, induce some more enlightened traveller to visit and describe the spot which attracted my attention, I shall have less occasion for apology in thus entreating you to patronize the attempt of

Your affectionate Kinsman.

I., G.



FRAGMENT

OF

A JOURNAL.

so well described by the renowned Lemuel Gulliver, I contented myself without examining that curious region, and proceeded still farther, till I discovered another island, surrounded in the same manner by an immense flight of steps: upon these were seated large groups of boys and girls, who were employed in learning and repeating their lessons. Their instructors being busily engaged in attending to them, I waited some time before I found one at leisure to give me any information concerning this newly-discovered spot; but, at last, one of

them informed me that the territory before us was the Island of Locuta, and contained an immense number of inhabitants, governed by a code of laws much more simple than is allowed by many of its historians. Interpreters, indeed, are not wanting, he added, who explain them into such a state of intricacy, as is enough to frighten young inquirers, and these are sometimes satisfied with learning by rote what they do not understand. Too many of them remain, therefore, deplorably ignorant of the nature and genius of this system of government, and are constantly exposed to the danger of offending against those regulations which are necessary to preserve the internal order and harmony of the community.

My curiosity being naturally excited upon this occasion, was at length gratified by the kindness of my new companion, who undertook to give me a slight sketch of the laws, government, and policy of the republic, whose territory was at present the subject of my attention, and addressed me in the following manner.

The members of this community, said he, are divided into nine or ten classes, some of which are again subdivided, in order to perform different duties, as occasion may require. Their trade extends to every part of the known world; but there is some variety in the rules they observe in their communication with different countries, and in their supply of the grand article of their commerce. There was, indeed, a period when the order and harmony of their government pervaded the whole earth. All its inhabitants equally observed the same laws, and the same sound was heard in all their borders. But, in one sad day, confusion and anarchy entered, and prevailed. Strange sounds echoed in the air; orators in the heat of argument were struck mute by the astonished countenances of thosewho no longer understood their language; and innumerable bands of despairing objects were driven from the spot, in all possible directions, to seek their fortune, and make establishments of their own. In order to enable these bands of fugitives and their descendants to communigate with each other, as by degrees became necessary, a great portion of labour has been entailed upon the human race, and the original code of laws has been diversified and accommodated to suit their wants and feelings. The study and application of these arrangements is also one of the first toils that falls to the lot of man, and to this object is directed the attention of the juvenile groups seated on the steps which surround the island.

Some of the nations it communicates with, acknowledge only eight classes of inhabitants, while others reckon nine; the division and subdivisions also of their power and influence, are differently explained by historians; but as their intercourse with the empire of Great Britain is carried on in a more simple manner than that of the rest of the world, I will, as much as possible, confine myself to the regulations observed in their dealings with, and the authority acknowledged by, that nation.

The first of these classes is the most ancient and independent in the community.





Substantial families of the first class preceded by their footmen.

Its dominion extends over every thing in the creation; and nothing that we see or speak of is out of the range of its influence. This is the first and most common description of the family; but a second branch of it confines its attention to persons and places; a third (more poetically inclined) deals with beings of the imagination; and a fourth collects a number of individuals in one group, and under one name: in this, however, the whole class agree, that it is the only one that can stand unsupported by the others, and by this distinction it is known from them. These individuals are clothed in different uniforms, which are regulated by the circumstances in which they are placed; by their going alone, or in parties; by their sex; or by the different relations in which they stand to each other; whether they are destined for actors themselves, are to be the objects of each other's action, or are obliged to assert their property in any thing that is disputed. With some exceptions, the natives of this class are attended by three little running footmen, who give notice of their approach, a distinction which is not allowed

to any other citizen of the state, and by which they are always recognised. Of these attendants there are two kinds; the first can belong to only one master at a time; the second is equally useful to a number, and has the additional qualification of pointing them out to bystanders, as being already known and expected. By the ancient state of Latium, indeed, this ceremony is not acknowledged to be necessary; and the very name of these attendants is not included in their list; but, as in England and many other countries, they are ranged among the servants of Government, we must permit them to remain so.

The second class of members is so nearly connected with the first, that they are often called their brothers; but they are distinguished from the former by one striking circumstance, that they can no more stand without the support of their companions, than the ivy can raise its head without laying hold of the oak. Their employment consists in proclaiming and describing the quality and properties of these companions. It must,

therefore, be allowed, that though they are weak and helpless by themselves, they are of infinite importance to the character and reputation of the personages to whom they belong, which entirely depend upon their report; and by their influence alone these characters are exalted or depressed, flattered or despised, esteemed or hated. Such is the mutual dependence of the two orders in question, and so necessary is it for the former to cultivate the favour and good opinion of the latter!

This office of pronouncing upon the merit of different characters, is performed in three different dresses, according to the degree of rank in which they are to be placed; and this they define with great exactness; for they will tell you that the magistrate is wise, but his colleague is wiser, and his predecessor was the wisest of all; the farmer is rich, but his neighbour may be richer, and his landlord the richest of the three; the design was bad, but the execution has been worse, and the result is the worst of all. A part of this class is employed in computing and arranging the

number of its principals, and these have a different uniform and title.

The third order in the state derives also its consequence from the first, for which its members act as deputies, and perform their duty with as much effect, but with more agility, than their employers, who are too unwieldy to be admitted upon the stage more than once or twice in a given period; but then it is indispensable that these representatives be equipped in the livery of their principals, or they would be the cause of confusion to the parties concerned, as well as of involving the laws of the republic in perpetual contradiction and mistake. Three persons among them seem to have pre-eminence over the rest, both in the frequency and usefulness of their intercourse. Of these, the first may be accused of making himself of more consequence than any one else, being the sole object of his own attention; and yet he has a better excuse than most selfish beings, since, in relating his own concerns, he is only fulfilling the duties of his station; and even when he

is obliged to enter upon those of others, he is confined to that part of it in which he is connected with them.

The business of the second brother is to inform or direct those who are about him: and whether his discourse be welcome by praise, or unwelcome by blame (according to the disposition of his hearers), they can never charge him with egotism or detraction; to the latter of which the office of the third particularly exposes him, as it is by his means that persons and things, when absent, are brought to view; and these are represented just as this whimsical narrator thinks proper to indulge his fancy. On this account, he is sometimes from ridicule, and too often from falsehood, the occasion of more unhappiness to society than all his coadjutors put together. There are also four other descriptions of these deputies, each of which has its own occupation, and never-intrenches upon that of the others, without doing mischief. Among these we discover a claimant, who puts his seal upon whatever he considers as his own property. The

second description is always preceded by his principal, to whom he constantly refers, and who acts as his precursor. The office of the third is to point out and describe the situation of different objects; and the fourth group in this assemblage, is the offspring of a marriage between the second and third classes in the grand list. As these, therefore, partake of the character of each parent, and are destined to perform in different capacities, their business is too complicate to be described in this short history of the family.

The fourth member of the senate has more employment than all the rest, and assists in all the actions of the first. Three brothers may be considered as the original heads of this numerous class: of these, the first is employed only in actions which relate to the individual himself; without him, no one can walk, dance, lie down, rise up, sleep, wake, or even exist: but the attention of the second brother is devoted to circumstances which do not centre in himself, for he has always an object in view. It is by his assistance that a general raises an army, disciplines his troops, and





The child plays _The Promenaders walk _ the Vagrant picks pockets_ & the poor Invalid is robbed.

overcomes the enemy; nay, without his energy, a man cannot trust his friend, thank his benefactor, love his wife, or regulate his family. In all public processions of the senate, he is followed, not preceded, by the object of his attention; or the page who acts as the deputy of that object, and who must be dressed in such a manner as to shew his master's superintendence and authority: and though it may appear unworthy the attention of Government, especially a democratic one, to insist upon these sumptuary laws (as they may be called), the strict observation of them is considered indispensable in every man of rank or of good breeding. The third brother often performs the duty of the second; for though, by his patient demeanour, he seems to let others do the business for him, it is by his interference that the army is to be raised, the troops disciplined, the enemy overcome, the friend trusted, the wife loved, &c. In distinction from his brother, the object of his energy marches before him, though its dependence upon him is made known by the intervention of a little officer, whose province will be described here-

after. There are also several particulars to be observed in the laws of this class of members, relating to the manner and time in which their actions are to be performed; whether they be simply announced, whether shewn to be possible, or clogged with a doubt or condition; whether they be performing at this moment, were performed yesterday, or will be performed to-morrow. It is also necessary to mention, that the members of this class are always seen in company with the first, or with one of the three persons before pointed out as its deputies; it is therefore of infinite importance that the latter should make a wise and careful choice of these companions of dubious merit, by whose irresistible influence he is either led into the career of true honour, or betrayed into ruin and disgrace. But to accomplish all the duties resulting from the different offices undertaken by the class now in review, a set of uniforms is ready to be put on, according to the fancy of different nations; and in the commerce with England, a number of little pages are in waiting to offer their assistance: Shall you want me? Will you send for me? Let me come. May I try? Might I help you? I would, if



May I go and play. No, you must come here.

Let me have one.
I would if I could.
I will have it.



I could. If I succeed not, I shall be much disappointed. In addition to the above-mentioned succours, they are allowed two full regiments of auxiliaries, and a few detached troops, to be employed when occasional force may be required. Without these aids, even this active class of members could not possibly get through all their business, especially in their dealings with the ambassadors of modern countries.

The fifth tribe of citizens is the immediate progeny of those whom we have just described. Their physiognomy, as well as character, resembles that of the preceding class: like them, they act in the concerns of others, receive impressions of the actions of others, or concentrate their energies within themselves. Yet, notwithstanding the consanguinity existing between them, their features, manners, and dress, bear also a strong resemblance to the two members whose names are placed at the head of the list, and in whose equipage they sometimes appear. The moment, however, they open their lips, the distinction is easily discernible. If one

of these individuals were to call your attention to the interesting topics of a lawsuit which had been long pending, and was at length decided, the expected departure of a beloved friend, or the probable rising of the stocks upon the return of peace, he would at once manifest his descent from the fourth class, as well as his habits of connexion with the first and second. But, in describing the character and offices of these gentlemen, we must not omit to observe, that some degree of nicety and delicacy is indispensable on their part, to discharge with propriety the different functions assigned to them. On this account, an intimate acquaintance would be necessary, to enable their biographer to point out the various peculiarities attending their pedigree, their connexions, and their habits of life.

The sixth class in the community is as intimate a companion of the fourth, as the second is of the first, and proves as useful in setting forth or discriminating the manner in which its actions are performed, as the former is in making known the character of the persons who are concerned in them. The office of

this division of citizens is to point out all the circumstances relating to their schemes, and to tell why they were undertaken, and how they were performed, well or ill, early or late, often or seldom, when or where. There exists also a very good understanding between this class and the second, which frequently combine together, in order to give greater precision of description: sometimes they mimic the accents of their superiors, and sometimes assume their very garb; nay, a few of the former may be called the children of the latter, being a part of themselves. These are distinguished from their parents by a fringe on their robe; and (to give an instance of their abilities) they will tell you that the lady was extremely beautiful, performed charmingly on the piano forte, and was much more affable than could have been expected in a personage so generally admired, and of such universal attraction. Many striking instances might be given of the usefulness of this class of citizens, but these are enough to prove how very properly they fulfil the task assigned them.

The seventh division on the list performs the office of connecting together the individuals of the first, and showing the relationship existing between them: as, the servant to the master on whom he attends; the magistrate to the district in which he is placed; the house to the family which inhabits it; the horses to the carriage which they draw; and the lady who rides in it. Without the intervention of this little active set of performers, she would never have arrived at her journey's end, descended from her carriage, curtsied to the company, and placed herself upon a sofa, where she talked of politics during half an hour, and concerning many known characters, was admired by the guests for her talents, and remained in their good graces, till she was supplanted by a powerful rival. It is necessary to add, that in this rank of eitizens is included the very officer hinted at in the history of the three brothers, and that he partakes of the peculiarity of the more active hero of that family, by obliging the dependent, who follows in his train, to be clothed in the same uniform with that prescribed





Little AND &For taking a peaceable promenade. BUT & NOR making a disturbance in the back ground.

by the latter, which in this instance proves their authority to be equal. This is a principal cause of the harmony and beauty of this system of government, and, therefore, one of its most important regulations, though one that is the most frequently misunderstood and transgressed. For want of this attention to propriety, the character in question is frequently confounded with other classes; but when this rule is strictly observed, it affords him a mark of distinction from those in which he is sometimes placed by mistake, and by which his power and dignity are deplorably degraded.

The office of the eighth order of inhabitants is very much like that of the seventh, except that, instead of its being directed to that of linking together individuals only, it extends also to the arrangement of whole divisions and subdivisions; and though it has no jurisdiction over the costume they wear, contributes very much to the beauty of the several groups, by placing every member in the most advantageous situation, and either connecting or separating them as the case may re-

quire. From this occupation of marshalling the different characters according to their rank and influence, this post may be compared to that of a master of the ceremonies; and till this office has been exercised in softening abruptnesses, and filling up deficiencies, the procession of the senate would advance in a very ungraceful and hobbling manner, or, in the language of painters, the keeping would be very ill preserved. Some historians have compared the occupation of this character to that of a priest; for none of the parties interested can be joined together without the assistance of one of this order, on whom it depends to make the bond of union more or less strict, according to his fancy: on that account, it is necessary to be aware of his uncertainty and caprice; for he will join you in one moment, to what he will separate you from in the next, and is by turns full of concessions, doubts, and conditions, the point of which, without great attention, it is sometimes difficult to discover. Hear what he says: " If you will observe my injunctions, the connexion which you are forming will prosper; but





Huzza!

Ah! that I should see him again.

Alack a day!

Oh Me!

if you once lose sight of them, confusion will be the consequence; nor can all my art set you to rights again."

From this short description of the community, you may perceive that their principal employment is that of oratory; and if you have leisure to wait till to-morrow, I will introduce you into the scene of action in the grand assembly of the senate. Then you will perceive that the ninth class of members has its effect; that their profession is chiefly confined to the representation of pleasure, pain, or surprise; and that they are called in where an appeal to the feelings of the assembly is required. When this individual is brought into action, the inflections of his voice have sometimes a striking effect. For, oh! how could the profession of an orator or tragedian be supported without his influence? but, alas! if he sport with the feelings of his audience, by attempting to raise a passion which he has not ability to support, he is at once condemned and degraded into the character of a Grub Street poet, or strolling player.

Here my conductor ceased, and begged permission to retire to the duties of his profession, leaving me to reflect upon the account he had given of the country and inhabitants to which I had so unexpectedly been introduced, and with whom, during his narrative, I had discovered some traces of acquaintance, though at first they had appeared to me perfect strangers. I therefore took my passage home again, which afforded me leisure to unravel the remainder of what appeared mysterious in their history. By degrees, I discovered these personages to be nothing more than a set of old friends, to whom I have been under obligations ever since I could speak, and long before I could write; nay, I might add, that the very Journal I am now offering is a specimen of their unceasing employment in the cause of human intercourse. I cannot open my lips, or take up my pen, without being obliged to their efforts. Millions of these friendly beings are in constant waiting to run upon our errands, communicate our ideas, describe our feelings, make known our wishes, or dictate

our commands. We are, therefore, bound by the ties of honour and gratitude to study the laws of their realm, in order to establish such habits as shall become a second nature, and prevent the crime, too common, of rebellion against that system of harmony, which has, in such an unexpected manner, been rendered the subject of my contemplation. . . .

END OF THE FRAGMENT.



NOTES OF ILLUSTRATION.

THE foregoing attempt to shadow forth the laws of Grammar, can hardly be styled an allegory, the design being so far obvious, as perpetually to betray itself to those who are acquainted with the subject; and it will be well if they discover not errors, in addition to those inconveniences which are inseparable from the machinery which has been adopted. If, however, it should prove an interesting and profitable exercise to the pupils who may have gone through the etymology and syntax of the English grammar, by calling forth their explanations of what they have already learned, or providing a test to prove that they have not merely learned by rote, the desired end will have been answered; and perhaps an opportunity may have been offered to the

instructor, of enlarging upon some circumstances which may not before have been rendered sufficiently intelligible. The arrangement of words is so differently made in different Grammars, as to discourage learners: but, if they can once conceive a clear idea of the various offices of the parts of speech, which have, by some late writers, been called only different modifications of the noun and verb; they may, by degrees, make a Grammar of their own, or class the ideas they have acquired on the subject, as every one arranges his library, according to his own fancy.

To proceed, then, to the subject immediately before us:—It may be objected, that the personification of the parts of speech transforms them all into nouns; but most is this inconvenience felt, in attempting to describe the character and office of the verb: for though the action is here committed to the auspices of the three brothers, we cannot lose the remembrance that the effort is made by the noun, which is expressed or understood in the sentence. This circumstance has suggested a

doubt whether the division of verbs into three heads, of being, doing, and suffering, might not more properly, in the English grammar, be restricted to two (or, as it is sometimes expressed, into transitive and intransitive); for, in no respect does the nature of the passive verb in this language differ from the active, but in the placing of the agent or object before or after it. The manner only of conjugating the passive verb is changed by the help of the neuter verb to be. Upon referring to Ashe's Grammar, we find the same remark. It would be an useful, and, perhaps, an amusing exercise to a learner, to turn whole sentences or paragraphs from the active voice into the passive, and vice versa. When the mind is once interested, or encouraged to make its own illustrations, the subject of grammar may be said "to smooth its wrinkled front, and caper nimbly" in the chamber of study.

The first class in the foregoing allegorical sketch represents Nouns: these are divided into common, proper, abstract, and collective;

and are declined for number, gender, and case.

These changes are hinted at in the uniforms to be occasionally put on.

In the Latin language, cases are made by the change of termination in the declination of nouns; but in the English, by prepositions. This admits of only three cases; the particle of being used, in order to decline the genitive; and the accusative, or objective, being understood without any addition or inflexion, the pronoun only which stands for the noun being changed in the termination. The genitive case is also made by the addition of an s, with an apostrophe before it, as John's horse, or, anciently, Johnis horse; and the apostrophe is placed to notice the omission of the i, John his horse being an idea founded in mistake *.

The hounds being out this morning, I rode to meet them.

My friend having promised to call, I waited at home to

receive her.

^{*} The nominative case, with a participle, and without a verb agreeing with it, is called the case absolute; as,

A noun is distinguished from all other parts of speech by the article which stands before it, and which is here designated by the appellation of running footman. The indcfinite article a or an (one abbreviated) is used before the singular number, and is general in its application; and the definite article the is used before either number, to mark specifically the object alluded to. Proper and abstract nouns are in general unattended by articles. In the Latin language they are not used. In most English Grammars the article is placed first in the list of parts of speech; but, as it has no meaning, except as an attendant upon the noun, it is here ranged after it, and should, in strict propriety, have been denominated the second class of members. that case, the adjective must be called the third, and the rest carried on till the list be extended to ten, instead of nine. This ambiguity has been occasioned by an unwillingness to separate the noun and adjective, which are here styled brothers.

The second class describes Adjectives.

In Latin they are called *noun*-adjectives, in contradistinction from noun-substantives.

They show the quality of the noun to which they are joined, and in English are declined only for comparison. Of this, examples are given in the words printed in italics.

Adjectives of number, cardinal, and ordinal, are also hinted at.

The third class is devoted to the Pronoun, a word standing for a noun, in order to prevent the inconvenient repetition of the name or thing alluded to. Pronouns are declined for number, gender, person, and case; and in these they must agree with the noun for which they stand.

Personal pronouns are described—the first person as speaking only of himself, the second to another, the third of another. Four other sorts of pronouns are mentioned—possessive, which sometimes answer the end of the genitive case, as showing property—relative, as re-

lating to the noun which precedes them, and is called their antecedent, with which they are to agree in number and person-demonstrative, which point to the situation in which things are placed, near or far off, as this, these, that, those; and last in the list, pronoun adjectives. These partake of the nature of both classes, as sometimes showing a property or quality, and may be said to include all pronouns which do not fall into the ranks of those already mentioned. All, each, every, either, some, one, any (to which are sometimes added the possessive pronouns my, thy, thinc, ours, &c. &c.), are words which give the idea of property or quality, and some of these may be joined to a noun, or stand by themselves, as occasion requires. In some grammars, two other divisions are added under the name of distributive and definitive, which seem to add to the intricacy of the subject, without answering any desirable end.

In the fourth class we discover Verbs, which show an action in three ways—being, doing, and suffering: these characteristics are

exemplified in the history of the three brothers—as, neuter, active, and passive verbs.

Verbs are conjugated for mood, tense, number, and person. The two first show the manner and time of performing the action. Of these, instances are given. As an action must always be performed by an agent, this part of speech is accompanied by a noun, or pronoun, either expressed, or understood, except in the infinitive mood, which merely names the action, and which is sometimes used as a nominative case to a verb.

The active verb governs the accusative case, which is the object of the action; but when the passive verb is used, the object is placed first in the nominative case, and the agent follows in the accusative, preceded by the preposition by, which governs it. A neuter verb may always be known by admitting a preposition after it—as, the child fell down the stairs.

English verbs change their termination for number, person, mood, and tense: this change is visible in the present and past tense. The future, both absolutely and conditionally, as well as the imperative and subjunctive moods, are helped out by the signs which are printed in italics, and alluded to under the title of pages. These signs change their terminations for person. The auxiliary to have, is also employed in forming some of the past tenses of all verbs; and the auxiliary to be, is used in conjugating the whole of the passive verb, which is formed by the addition of the past participle of the active verb to all its moods and tenses.

Sometimes the verb to do is used as an auxiliary, in order to give greater force of expression; as, I do love music: and sometimes verbs are called impersonal, being used only with the third person of the neuter gender; as, it rains, it blows, it must, it ought, &c.

A late writer expresses himself thus on the subject, which we must be allowed to transcribe, even after the common arrangement here given to learners, whose ideas should by degrees be more enlarged.

" If we consider the matter not metaphysically, but grammatically, and regard those only as moods which are diversified by inflexion or termination, we find that our language has only one mood and two tenses. This doctrine in respect to the cases is generally admitted. For though the Greeks and Romans expressed the different relations by variety of inflexion, which they termed cases, it does not follow that we are to acknowledge the same number of cases as they had, when these relations are expressed in English, not by inflexions, but by prepositions. Our language knows no such cases; nor would an Englishman, unacquainted with Greek or Latin, ever dream of these cases, though perfectly master of his own language. I consider, therefore, that we have no more cases, moods, tenses, or voices, in our language, as far as its grammar, not its capacity of expression, is concerned, than we have variety of termination to denote these different accessary ideas *."

^{*} Alexander Crombie, LL. D. on the Etymology and Syntax of the English Language.

The fifth class represents the Participle, a part of speech derived from the verb, agreeing with its primitive in denoting being, action, or suffering, but differing from it in this, that the participle implies no affirmation. It often performs the duty of a noun or adjective, of which instances are given. In these cases they are preceded by an article.

An intelligent inquirer on the subject has suggested, that in some few phrases, a may be placed before the present participle, when preceded by the verbs to come, to go, to full, to set, to run; as, she came a begging, he went a hunting, she fell a crying, &c. But it must be carefully observed, that this a is not the particle, but a corruption of the preposition on, and that it should never be used after any verb but those mentioned; the phrases, he was a hunting, she is a crying, &c. are incorrect and inadmissible. As it is difficult to avoid the use of this particle on some occasions, it seems necessary to draw a line of toleration.

The sixth class describes the Adverb, which is as intimately connected with the verb, in order to show the manner and circumstances relating to the action, as the adjective is in describing the quality of the noun to which it is joined. Of this instances are given. Words of this class are divided into a variety of heads, to show the different circumstances of manner, time, place, distance, &c. which are here attempted to be taken notice of; and it is necessary to observe that some of them change for comparison, in the same manner as the adjective. Sometimes they are used in declining the adjective: sometimes they perform the office of an adjective, by being joined to the noun; and some are derived from the adjective, by the addition of the syllable ly, hinted at in the fringe upon the robe, and examples adduced.

An illustration of the complicated business of the adverb may be given in an anecdote of the late Mr. Airey, an intimate friend of the celebrated Garrick, who, for some time before he quitted the stage, would never act, unless Mr. Airey promised to be present, and to sup with him afterwards. This gentleman, who belonged to a club which the late Duke of Cumberland once honoured with his presence, addressed to his Royal Highness a speech composed of adverbs, so artfully put together, that it was taken for a piece of finished eloquence, and called forth the compliments of the Duke. It is so difficult to conceive the possibility of this playful deception, in substituting sound for sense, even on the most superficial observer, that a specimen of it would have been an amusing relic.

The seventh class belongs to the Preposition, a part of speech showing the relation which one thing bears to another. The examples already given, describe in the shortest way its character and office. It is here to be repeated, that prepositions govern the accusative case, and are so called, because they generally precede their regimen, or the word they govern. Instances are given in the little story of a lady making a visit. This word is sometimes confounded with the adverb or con-

junction, but it may be always distinguished from them by placing a noun or pronoun after it. In some instances the same word will perform in the service of different classes, of which the learner should be asked to give examples.

The eighth class refers to Conjunctions, which are used to connect words and sentences together. They appear to be inferior to prepositions in dignity and authority, by having no government over the words they join together, and are divided into copulative and disjunctive, with other heads of distinctions, which are hinted at.

The business of this class is described to be that of marshalling the order of words and sentences to the best advantage; and it might be added, that this member, when required to undertake the arrangement of too large a party at a time, has been known to lead you such a dance in and out, that you do not know where you are, and long for a period to rest yourself. This is one of the earliest defects of style in

the familiar letters of young people, which (with the addition of a reasonable number of relative pronouns) will sometimes drag on for two pages without any proper pause, while you hunt in vain for the principal nominative case, a gem lying buried under a heap of rubbish.

The train of citizens is closed by the ninth class, being composed of Interjections, which are expressions used to denote some emotion or affection of the mind, and which need no comment.

To those who assert that the study of the Latin grammar is the readiest method of acquiring a knowledge of the English, and renders that of the latter superfluous, the following paragraphs seem to afford a satisfactory reply. They are taken from the preface and concluding pages of the excellent work alluded to, "On the Etymology and Syntax of English Grammar."

"That an acquaintance with Greek and Latin facilitates the acquisition of every other language, and that by a knowledge of these the classical scholar is therefore materially assisted in attaining a critical acquaintance with his native tongue, it would argue extreme perversity to deny. But that an extensive knowledge of Greek and Latin is often associated with an imperfect and superficial acquaintance with the principles of the English language, is a fact which experience demonstrates, and which it would not be difficult to explain."

"I cannot dismiss the subject, without earnestly recommending to the classical student to cultivate a critical acquaintance with his native tongue. It is an egregious, but a common error, to imagine that a perfect knowledge of Greek and Latin precludes the necessity of studying the principles of English grammar. Nay, the peculiar idioms of any language, how like soever in its general principles to any other, must be learned by study, and an attentive perusal of the best writers in that language. Nor can any imputation be more reproachful to the proficient in classic literature, than with a critical knowledge of

Greek and Latin, which are now dead languages, to be superficially acquainted with his native tongue, in which he must think, speak, and write. As a farther inducement to the study of the English language, I would assure the young reader, that a due attention to accuracy of diction is highly conducive to correctness of thought. For, as it is generally true, that he whose conceptions are clear, and who is master of his subject, delivers his sentiments with ease and perspicuity; so it is equally certain, that, as language is not only the vehicle of thought, but also an instrument of invention, if we desire to attain a habit of conceiving clearly and thinking correctly, we must learn to speak and write with accuracy and precision."

THE END.

ERRATA.

Page 26, line 7-for would, read will.

ib. 9-for would, read will.

41, 8-for they are, read it is.

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Cighteen Maxims

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